

# Year 4 — Numerical Solutions of PDEs

Based on lectures by Prof. Endre Süli

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These notes are not endorsed by the lecturers, and I have modified them (often significantly) after lectures. They are nowhere near accurate representations of what was actually lectured, and in particular, all errors are almost surely mine (especially the typos!).

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# 1 Introduction

The basic idea is very simple. Suppose that  $y$  is differentiable at  $x \in \mathbb{R}$  then,

$$y' = \lim_{h \rightarrow 0} \frac{y(x+h) - y(x)}{h}$$

and so,

$$\frac{y(x+h) - y(x)}{h} = y'(x) + o(1) \quad \text{as } h \rightarrow 0$$

This then motivates,

$$y'(x) \approx \frac{y(x+h) - y(x)}{h}$$

and further if  $y'$  is differentiable,

$$y''(x) \approx \frac{y(x+h) - 2y(x) + y(x-h)}{h^2} \quad \text{as } h \rightarrow 0.$$

To check if this is a good approximation we use Taylor series and see what the other terms are (apart from  $y'$  and  $y''$ ) and then check these terms go to zero.

**Euler's Method** Given  $y'(x) = f(x, y(x))$  subject to  $y(x_0) = y_0$ . We write,

$$\frac{y(x_k+h) - y(x_k)}{h} \approx f(x_k, y(x_k)) \quad y(x_0) = y_0 \quad x_k = x_0 + kh \quad k \in \mathbb{Z}$$

## 2 Measuring Smoothness

### 2.1 Function Spaces

The accuracy of a numerical method for the approximate solution of PDEs depends on its ability to capture the important feature of the analytic solution. One such feature is smoothness. To do this, we need some function spaces,

- $C(\Omega)$ , Continuous functions
- $L_p(\Omega)$ , Integrable Functions
- $H^k(\Omega)$ , Sobolev spaces.

**Notation.** We let  $\mathbb{N}$  be the nonnegative integers,  $\alpha = (\alpha_1, \alpha_2, \dots, \alpha_n) \in \mathbb{N}^n$  is called a multi-index. The nonnegative integer,  $|\alpha| = \alpha_1 + \dots + \alpha_n$ . We let,

$$D^\alpha = \left( \frac{\partial}{\partial x_1} \right)^{\alpha_1} \dots \left( \frac{\partial}{\partial x_n} \right)^{\alpha_n} = \frac{\partial^{|\alpha|}}{\partial x_1^{\alpha_1} \dots \partial x_n^{\alpha_n}}$$

**Definition 2.1** ( $C^k(\Omega)$ ). Let  $\Omega$  be an open set in  $\mathbb{R}^n$ , and let  $k \in \mathbb{N}$ . We denote  $C^k(\Omega)$  the set of all continuous real-valued functions defined on  $\Omega$  st,  $D^\alpha u$  is continuous on  $\Omega$  for all  $\alpha = (\alpha_1, \alpha_2, \dots, \alpha_n)$  with  $|\alpha| \leq k$ .

**Definition 2.2** ( $C^k(\Omega)$ ). Assuming that  $\Omega$  is a bounded open set,  $C^k(\overline{\Omega})$  will denote the set of all  $u$  in  $C^k(\Omega)$  st  $D^\alpha u$  can be extended from  $\Omega$  to a continuous function on  $\overline{\Omega}$ , the closure of the set  $\Omega$  for all  $\alpha$  with  $|\alpha| \leq k$ .

The linear space  $C^k(\overline{\Omega})$  can then be equipped with the norm,

$$\|u\|_{C^k(\overline{\Omega})} := \sum_{|\alpha| \leq k} \sup_{x \in \Omega} |D^\alpha u(x)|$$

Further, when  $k = 0$  we just write  $C(\Omega)$ .

The support,  $\text{supp } u$  of a continuous function  $u$  on  $\Omega$  is defined as the closure of the set,

$$\{x \in \Omega : u(x) \neq 0\}$$

In other words,  $\text{supp } u$  is the smallest closed subset of  $\Omega$  such that  $u = 0$  in  $\Omega \setminus u$ ,

We denote  $C_0^k(\Omega)$  the set of all  $u \in C^k(\Omega)$  such that  $\text{supp } u \subset \Omega$  and  $\text{supp } u$  is bounded. Let,

$$C_0^\infty(\Omega) = \bigcap_{k \geq 0} C_0^k(\Omega)$$

### 2.2 Spaces of integrable functions

Let  $p \in \mathbb{R}$ ,  $p \geq 1$ , we denote  $L_p(\Omega)$  the set of all real-valued functions defined on  $\Omega$  such that,

$$\int_{\Omega} (|u(x)|^p)^{\frac{1}{p}} dx$$

Functions which equal almost everywhere on  $\Omega$  are identified with each other.<sup>1</sup> The norm is,

$$\|u\|_{L_p(\Omega)} = \left( \int_{\Omega} |u(x)|^2 \right)^{\frac{1}{2}}$$

<sup>1</sup>This is equivalent to saying they are equal except on a set of measure zero. A subset of  $\mathbb{R}^n$  is said to be a set of measure zero if it can be contained in the union of countably many open balls of arbitrarily small volume.

More specifically, we will focus on  $L_2$ ,

$$(u, v) := \int_{\Omega} u(x)v(x)dx$$

**Lemma 2.3** (Cauchy-Schwartz). Let  $u, v \in L_2(\Omega)$ , then

$$|(u, v)| \leq \|u\|_{L_2(\Omega)} \|v\|_{L_2(\Omega)}$$

**Remark.** The space  $L_2(\Omega)$  equipped with the inner product  $(\cdot, \cdot)$  is a Hilbert Space. This implies why the Sobolev spaces are denoted  $H^k(\Omega)$

## 2.3 Sobolev Spaces

Consider,

$$\begin{aligned} -u''(x) &= f(x) \\ u(a) &= A, \quad u(b) = B \end{aligned}$$

If we say that  $u \in \mathcal{C}^2([a, b])$ , then in the classical sense then this solution doesn't have a solution. However consider some  $v$ , that vanishes at the endpoints. Then,

$$\int_a^b u'(x)v'(x)dx = \int_a^b f(x)v(x)dx$$

and then this is a new definition of a solution. This is a weak solution.

Suppose that  $u$  is locally integrable<sup>2</sup> on  $\Omega$  for each bounded open set  $\omega$ , with  $\bar{\omega} \subseteq \Omega$ . Suppose also that there exists some  $w_{\alpha}$  locally integrable on  $\Omega$  such that,

$$\int_{\Omega} w_{\alpha}(x)v(x)dx = (-1)^{|\alpha|} \int_{\Omega} u(x)D^{\alpha}v(x) \quad \forall v \in C_0^{\infty}(\Omega).$$

Then  $w_{\alpha}$  is called the weak derivative of  $u$  (of order  $|\alpha|$ ) and we write  $w_{\alpha} = D^{\alpha}u(x)$ .

**Example.** Let  $\Omega = \mathbb{R}$  and let  $u(x) = (1 - |x|)_+$  ( $u(x) > 0$ ). Clearly  $u$  isn't differentiable at  $0, \pm 1$ . However,  $u$  is locally differentiable and so will possibly have a weak derivative,

$$\begin{aligned} \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} uv'dx &= \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} (1 - |x|)_+ v'dx = \int_{-1}^1 (1 - |x|)v'(x)dx \\ &= \int_{-1}^0 (1 + x)v'dx + \int_0^1 (1 - x)v'(x)dx \\ &= \int_{-1}^0 (-1)v(x)dx + \int_0^1 v(x)dx \\ &= -\int_{-1}^0 v(x)dx + \int_0^1 v(x)dx \\ &= -\int_{-1}^1 w(x)v(x)dx \end{aligned}$$

where,

$$w = \begin{cases} 0, & x < -1 \\ 1, & x \in (-1, 0) \\ -1, & x \in (0, 1) \\ 0, & x > 1 \end{cases}$$

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<sup>2</sup>This means that a function is integrable on every subset of  $\omega$ .

Let  $k$  be a nonnegative integer. We define,

$$H^k(\Omega) := \{u \in L_2(\Omega) : D^\alpha u \in L_2(\Omega), |\alpha| \leq k\}$$

$H^k(\Omega)$  is called a Sobolev space of order  $k$ ; it is equipped with the Sobolev norm,

$$\|u\|_{H^k(\Omega)} = \left( \sum_{|\alpha| \leq k} \|D^\alpha u\|_{L_2(\Omega)}^2 \right)^{\frac{1}{2}}$$

and inner product,

$$(u, v)_{H^k(\Omega)} := \sum_{|\alpha| \leq k} (D^\alpha u, D^\alpha v)$$

With this inner product,  $H^k(\Omega)$  is a hilbert space. Letting,

$$|u|_{H^k(\Omega)} := \left( \sum_{|\alpha|=k} \|D^\alpha u\|_{L_2(\Omega)}^2 \right)^{\frac{1}{2}}$$

and we can write,

$$\|u\|_{H^k(\Omega)} = \left( \sum_{j=0}^k |u|_{H^j(\Omega)}^2 \right)^{\frac{1}{2}}$$

and this is the Sobolev seminorm.

We define a special sobolev space,

$$H_0^1(\Omega) := \{u \in H^1(\Omega) : u = 0 \text{ on } \partial\Omega\}.$$

In Lesbegue you can change points on measure zero, the boundary is also measure zero. The trace theorems tell us what the implication of doing this happens.

**Lemma 2.4** (Poincaré-Friedrichs Inequality). Suppose that  $\Omega$  is a bounded open set in  $\mathbb{R}^n$  and let  $u \in H_0^1(\Omega)$ , then, there exists a positive constant  $c_*(\Omega)$  independent of  $u$ , such that,

$$\int_{\Omega} u^2(x) dx \leq c_* \sum_{i=1}^n \int_{\Omega} |\partial_{x_i} u(x)|^2$$

. We shall the case for a square, that is,  $\Omega = (a, b) \times (c, d)$ . Then,

$$u(x, y) = u(a, y) + \int_a^x \partial_x u(\xi, y) d\xi = \int_a^x \partial_x u(\xi, y) d\xi \quad c < y < d$$

Then from the Cauchy Schwartz, we get,

$$\int_{\Omega} |u(x, y)|^2 \leq \frac{1}{2}(b-a)^2 \int_{\Omega} |\partial_x u(x, y)|^2 dx dy$$

and now we do it in the  $y$  direction,

$$\int_{\Omega} |u(x, y)|^2 \leq \frac{1}{2}(d-c)^2 \int_{\Omega} |\partial_y u(x, y)|^2 dx dy$$

Then we divide by the  $(b-a)^2/2$  and  $(d-c)^2/2$  and then just add them,

$$\int_{\Omega} u^2(x) dx \leq c_* \int_{\Omega} (|\partial_x u|^2 + |\partial_y u|^2) dx dy$$

□

### 3 section name

**REMEMBER: Stability + Consistency, implies Convergence.** We will illustrate finite difference on a simple two point BVP,

$$\begin{aligned} -u'' + c(x)u &= f(x) \quad x \in (0, 1) \\ u(0) &= 0, u(1) = 0 \end{aligned}$$

Where  $f, c$  are real valued and continuous on the interval and  $c(x) \geq 0$  for all  $x \in [0, 1]$ . The first step is to define a mesh, we are choosing some  $N$  such that,  $h = (1 - 0)/N = 1/N$  and  $x_i = ih$  where  $i = 0, \dots, N$ . We define the set of mesh points,

$$\Omega_h = \{x_i : i = 1, \dots, N - 1\}$$

the set of boundary mesh-points,  $\Gamma_h := \{x_0, x_N\}$  and the set of all mesh-points,  $\overline{\Omega}_h := \Omega_h \cup \Gamma_h$ . Now we to fiddle with the equation. Suppose that  $u$  is sufficiently smooth ( $u \in \mathcal{C}^4([0, 1])$ ). Now we take the taylor series,

$$u(x_i \pm h) = u(x_i) \pm hu'(x_i) + \frac{h^2}{2}u''(x_i) \pm \frac{h^3}{6}u'''(x_i) + \mathcal{O}(h^4)$$

so that,

$$\begin{aligned} D_x^+ u(x_i) &:= \frac{u(x_{i+1}) - u(x_i)}{h} = u'(x_i) + \mathcal{O}(h) \\ D_x^- u(x_i) &:= \frac{u(x_i) - u(x_{i-1}))}{h} = u'(x_i) + \mathcal{O}(h) \end{aligned}$$

and,

$$D_x^+ D_x^- u(x_i) = D_x^- D_x^+ u(x_i) = \frac{u(x_{i+1}) - 2u(x_i) + u(x_{i-1}))}{h^2} = u''(x_i) + \mathcal{O}(h^2)$$

We call these  $D_x^+$  the forward difference and  $D_x^-$  the backward difference, and  $D_x^+ D_x^-$  the symmetric difference. So we rewrite this equation,

$$-D_x^+ D_x^- u(x_i) + c_i u(x_i) \approx f(x), \quad i = 1, \dots, N - 1$$

where  $u(x_0) = 0$  and  $u(x_N) = 0$ . This now motivates the following equation,

$$-D_x^+ D_x^- U_i + c_i(x)U_i = f(x), \quad i = 1, \dots, N - 1$$

where  $U_0 = 0$  and  $U_N = 0$ . This is just a set of linear equations,

$$\begin{pmatrix} \frac{2}{h^2} + c(x_1) & -\frac{1}{h^2} & & & \\ -\frac{1}{h^2} & \frac{2}{h^2} + c(x_2) & -\frac{1}{h^2} & & \\ & & \ddots & \ddots & \ddots \\ & & & -\frac{1}{h^2} & \frac{2}{h^2} + c(x_{N-2}) \end{pmatrix}$$

#### 3.1 Existence and Uniqueness of a solution

Q begin an analysis to help us how that the previous matrix is invertable. The idea is, take two functions  $V$  and  $W$  defined on the interior meshpoints, the inner product,

$$(V, W)_h = \sum_{i=1}^{N-1} h V_i W_i$$

which is very similar to the  $L_2$  inner product. Consider our  $-u'' + cu = f(x)$ , the analogous idea to solving  $AU = 0$  is  $-u'' + cu = 0$  where  $u(0) = 0$  and  $u(1) = 0$ , this is to show that  $u = 0$ . If we can do this, then we want to replicate this in finite difference. To replicate,

$$\begin{aligned} \int_0^1 -(-u'' + c(x)u(x))u(x)dx &= \int_0^1 |u'(x)|^2 + c(x)|u(x)|^2 dx \\ &\geq \int_0^1 |u'(x)|^2 \end{aligned}$$

because  $c(x) \geq 0$  for all  $x \in [0, 1]$ . As we know  $-u'' + cu = 0$ , we can say that  $u' = 0$  on  $[0, 1]$ . We want to now do this for the finite difference scheme, hence we need a sum by parts,

**Lemma 3.1.** Suppose that  $V$  is a function defined at the mesh points  $x_i = 0, \dots, N$  and let  $V_0 = V_N = 0$ , then,

$$(-D_x^+ D_x^- V, V)_h = \sum_{i=1}^N h |D_x^- V_i|^2$$

We now consider,  $(AV, V)_h$ ,

$$\begin{aligned} (AV, V)_h &= (-D_x^+ D_x^- V + cV, V)_h \\ &= (-D_x^+ D_x^- V, V)_h + (cV, V)_h \\ &\geq \sum_{i=0}^h h |D_x^- V_i|^2 \end{aligned}$$

and hence we have a non-singular matrix, and therefore we have a unique solution.

**Theorem 3.2.** Suppose  $c$  and  $f$  are continuous real-valued functions defined on  $[0, 1]$  and  $c(x) \geq 0$  for all  $x \in [0, 1]$ . Then the finite difference scheme possesses a unique solution.

### 3.2 Stability, Consistency and Convergence

We define a norm,

$$\|U\|_h = \left( \sum_{i=1}^{N-1} h |U_i|^2 \right)^{\frac{1}{2}}$$

and the discrete Sobolev norm,

$$|U|_{1,h} = (\|U\|_h^2 + \|D_x^- U\|_h^2)^{\frac{1}{2}}$$

Using this we want to prove something like,

$$(AV, V)_h \geq c_0 \|V\|_{1,h}^2$$

and we can,

**Lemma 3.3** (Discrete Poincaré Friedrichs inequality). Let  $V$  be a function defined on the mesh  $\{x_0, \dots, x_N\}$ , and such that  $V_0 = V_N = 0$ ; then, there exists a positive constant  $c_*$ , independent of  $V$  and  $h$ , such that

$$\|V\|^2 \leq c_* \|D_x^- V\|_h^2$$

Further,

$$(AV, V)_h \geq c_0 \|V\|_{1,h}^2$$

where  $c_0 = (1 + c_*)^{-1}$ . Now we state,

**Theorem 3.4.** The scheme is stable in the sense that,

$$\|U\|_{1,h} \leq \frac{1}{c_0} \|f\|_h$$

Using the stability result we want to now go forward and look at convergence. Hence we consider the global error,  $e_i := u(x_i) - U_i$ . Now,

$$\begin{aligned} Ae_i &= Au(x_i) - AU_i = Au(x_i) - f(x_i) \\ &= -D_x^+ D_x^- u(x_i) + c(x_i)u(x_i) - f(x_i) \\ &= u''(x_i) - D_x^+ D_x^- u(x_i), \quad i = 1, \dots, N-1 \end{aligned}$$

and hence we have derived the consistency error. Thus,

$$Ae_i = \phi_i \quad i = 1, \dots, N-1$$

where  $e_0 = 0$  and  $e_N = 0$ . Now use the stability result,

$$\|u - U\|_{1,h} = \|e\|_{1,h} \leq \frac{1}{c_0} \|h\|$$

It remains to bound  $\|\phi\|_h$ , so we can then bound it by a constant times  $h^2$ . Hence,  $\|\phi\|_h \leq Ch^2$ . We deduce,

$$\|u - U\| \leq \frac{C}{c_0} h^2.$$

Hence we have quadratic convergence.



## 4 Finite Difference approximation for elliptic BVPs

We now want to start using the ideas from the PDE to the ODE,  $-\left(\frac{\partial^2 u}{\partial x^2} + \frac{\partial^2 u}{\partial y^2}\right) + c(x, y)u = f(x, y)$  on the rectangle  $\Omega = (a, b) \times (c, d)$  with  $u = 0$  on  $\partial\Omega$ . We also remember  $c(x) \geq 0$ , we know how useful this now. Further assuming  $f$  is continuous leads to the case where the error analysis proceeds in the last lecture.

Let  $N$  be an integer and let  $h = 1/N$  the mesh points are  $(x_i, y_i)$  where we defined them as expected ( $x_i = ih$  and  $y_i = ih$ ). Then again we have points in the interior and on the exterior. The whole,

$$\overline{\Omega_h} = \{(x_i, y_i) : i, j = 0, \dots, N\}$$

To construct our finite difference method we note that there is now three points of finite difference in each direction. That is, if we take a point, then we have four points involved, North, South, East, West. Hence we have a five point finite difference scheme. This means our matrix looks different. Hence we get,

$$-(D_x^+ D_x^- U_{i,j} + D_y^+ D_y^- U_{i,j}) + c(x_i, y_i)U_{i,j} = f(x_i, y_j).$$

Now we ask, how many unknowns we have, well it's  $(n-1)^2$ . We then have a pentadiagonal matrix,

### 4.1 Existence and Uniqueness

Now, is this unique and exists? We are going to follow similarly to yesterday,

$$(V, W)_h = \sum_{i=1}^{N-1} \sum_{j=1}^{N-1} h^2 V_{i,j} W_{i,j}$$

which is very similar to the  $L^2$  inner product. So,

**Lemma 4.1.** Suppose  $V$  is a function defined on  $\hat{\Omega}_h$  such that  $V = 0$  on  $\Gamma_h$ , then,

$$(-D_x^+ D_x^- V, V)_h + (-D_y^+ D_y^- V, V)_h = \sum_{i=1}^{N-1} \sum_{j=1}^{N-1} h^2 |D_x^- V_{i,j}|^2 + \sum_{i=1}^{N-1} \sum_{j=1}^{N-1} h^2 |D_y^- V_{i,j}|^2$$

Now we can go back and proceed to analysing this finite difference scheme,

$$\begin{aligned} (AV, V)_h &= (-D_x^+ D_x^- V, V)_h + (-D_y^+ D_y^- V, V)_h + (cV, V)_h \\ &\geq \sum_{i=1}^{N-1} \sum_{j=1}^{N-1} h^2 |D_x^- V_{i,j}|^2 + \sum_{i=1}^{N-1} \sum_{j=1}^{N-1} h^2 |D_y^- V_{i,j}|^2 \end{aligned}$$

Hence, as  $V = 0$  on  $\Gamma_h$  we can now bound this by 0.

### 4.2 Stability and Convergence

Again, we look towards norms, just generalised,

$$\|D_x^- U\|_h = \left( \sum_{i=1}^{N-1} \sum_{j=1}^{N-1} h^2 |D_x^- V_{i,j}|^2 \right)^{1/2},$$

and similarly for  $y$ . We have hence proved,

$$(AV, V)_h \geq \|D_x^- V\|_x^2 + \|D_y^- V\|_y^2.$$

Now we need to prove some Poincaré-Friedrichs Inequality, so then we can bound by a full norm.

**Lemma 4.2** (Discrete Poincaré-Friedrichs).

$$\|V\|_h^2 \leq c_*(\|D_x^- V\|_h^2 + \|D_y^- V\|_h^2)$$

and now we can bound the above inequality.

**Theorem 4.3.** Our finite difference scheme is stable in the sense that,

$$\|U\|_{1,h} \leq \frac{1}{c_0} \|f\|_h$$

We defined  $e_i = u(x_i, y_i) - U_{i,j}$  global error, so we use it again. Hence we put this into the finite difference method.

$$\begin{aligned} Ae_{i,j} &= \Delta u(x_i, x_j) - (D_x^+ D_x^- u(x_i, y_i) + D_x^+ D_x^- u(x_i, y_i)) \\ &= \left[ \frac{\partial^2 u}{\partial x^2} - D_x^+ D_x^- \right] + \left[ \frac{\partial^2 u}{\partial y^2} - D_y^+ D_y^- \right] \\ &= -\frac{h^2}{12} \frac{\partial^4 u}{\partial x^4}(\xi_i, y_i) - \frac{h^2}{12} \frac{\partial^4 u}{\partial y^4}(x_i, \eta_i) \end{aligned}$$

and hence,

$$\|e\|_{1,h} \leq \frac{1}{c_0} \|\phi\|_h = \mathcal{O}(h^2)$$

### 4.3 $f \in L_2(\Omega)$

We now want to consider  $f \in L_2(\Omega)$ , where we have a jump in the source term. Hence we modify our left hand side. The idea is to replace  $f(x_i, y_i)$  by a cell average,

$$Tf_{i,j} := \frac{1}{h^2} \int_{K_{i,j}} f(x, y) dx dy$$

where,  $K_{i,j} = [x - hi/2, x + hi/2] \times [y - hi/2, y + hi/2]$ . Hence we now have the same FD method but with  $T_{i,j}$  on the right hand side. Does a solution exist and is it unique? Yes, because of the same arguments as before.

**Theorem 4.4.** The scheme is stable in the sense that,

$$\|U\|_{1,h} \leq \frac{1}{c_0} \|Tf\|_h$$

*Proof.* Same as before. □

Now we consider  $u - U$ , to find the accuracy of this method.

$$\begin{aligned} e &= u - U \\ Ae &= Au - AU \\ &= Au - Tf \\ &= Au - T(-\Delta u + cu) \\ &= (T \frac{\partial^2 u}{\partial x^2} - D_x^+ D_x^- u)_{ij} + (T \frac{\partial^2 u}{\partial y^2} - D_x^+ D_x^- u)_{ij} + (cu - T(cu))_{ij} \equiv \varphi \end{aligned}$$

This has six terms, to make this better we realise that the integral of  $\frac{\partial^2 u}{\partial x^2}$  turns into a difference operator, similarly for  $y$ . Hence,

$$T \left( \frac{\partial^2 u}{\partial x^2} \right) (x_i, y_i) = D_x^+ \left[ \frac{1}{h} \int_{y_j - h/2}^{y_j + h/2} \frac{\partial u}{\partial x} (x_i - h/2, y) dy \right]$$

and,

$$T\left(\frac{\partial u}{\partial y}\right)(x_i, y_j) = D_y^+ \left[ \frac{1}{h} \int_{x_i-h/2}^{x_i+h/2} \frac{\partial u}{\partial y}(x, y_j - h/2) dx \right]$$

and so we can write,

$$Ae = D_x^+ \varphi_1 + D_y^+ \varphi_2 + \psi.$$

Where,

$$\varphi_1 := \frac{1}{h} \int_{x_i-h/2}^{x_i+h/2} \frac{\partial u}{\partial y}(x, y_j - h/2) dx - D_x^- u$$

$$\varphi := \frac{1}{h} \int_{x_i-h/2}^{x_i+h/2} \frac{\partial u}{\partial y}(x, y_j - h/2) dx - D_y^- u$$

$$\psi := (cu)(x_i, y_i) - T(cu)(x_i, y_i)$$

and we note that the usual stability bound can only give a crude bound. This makes no use of our new  $\phi$  form. Hence,

$$\begin{aligned} \frac{1}{c_0} \|e\|_{1,h}^2 &\leq (Ae, e)_h = (\phi, e)_h \\ &= (D_x^+ \varphi_1, e)_h + (D_y^+ \varphi_2, e)_h + (\psi, e)_h \\ &= (\varphi_1, D_x^- e)_h + (\varphi_2, D_y^- e)_h + (\psi, e)_h \\ &\leq \|\varphi_1\|_x \|D_x^- e\|_x + \|\varphi_2\|_y \|D_y^- e\|_y + \|\phi\|_h \|e\|_h \\ &= (\|\varphi_1\|_x^2 + \|\varphi_2\|_y^2 + \|\psi\|_h^2)^{\frac{1}{2}} (\|D_x^- e\|_x^2 + \|D_y^- e\|_y^2 + \|e\|_h^2)^{\frac{1}{2}} \\ &= (\|\varphi_1\|_x^2 + \|\varphi_2\|_y^2 + \|\psi\|_h^2)^{\frac{1}{2}} \|e\|_{1,h} \end{aligned}$$

**Lemma 4.5.** The global error,  $e$ , of the finite difference scheme is,

$$\|e\|_{1,h} \leq \frac{1}{c_0} \left( \|\varphi_1\|_x^2 + \|\varphi_2\|_y^2 + \|\psi\|_h^2 \right)$$

In fact we can see that we can bound  $\phi$  by a third derivative, instead of a forth.